(*Rs. in crores*)

Year	Allocation	Expenditure
2002-03	115.00	18.00(30.6.02)

Treatment in private hospitals

2691. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the system of treatment in some prominent private hospitals in Delhi is woefully inadequate and scandalous for the poor people, as reported in the 'Times of India' dated, the 12th July, 2002;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government of NCT of Delhi has informed that the newspaper article primarily refers to the Apollo Hospital. As per the agreement reached between the Indraprastha Medical Corporation Ltd. (IMCL) and Government of NCT of Delhi, 25% of beds are to be treated as free beds, however the consumables and medicines etc. are not provided by the management of Apollo Hospital to all such referred/poor patients. As regards other private hospitals which have been provided land on concessional rates and are bound to provide some percentage of beds and OPD free of cost as per the lease agreement, no powers are vested with Government of NCT of Delhi to take action against any such erring hospitals as only the land allotting agency which has entered into the lease agreement can take action.

(c) The Government of NCT of Delhi is proposing to bring a legislation to regulate the private nursing homes/hospitals.

Development of AIDS vaccine

2692. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister has called for early development of AIDS vaccine;

(b) if so, whether the Prime Minister also urged that there is a need to generate awareness and use it as an effective antidote to the virus till a medical solution is developed; and

(c) if so, the efforts being made by the Scientists in developing AIDS vaccine?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 4th December, 2000, with the International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) to promote and accelerate the efforts to develop an indigenous AIDS vaccine that will address the strains of the HIV-1 subtype C, predominant in India.

The Modified Vaccinia Ankara (MVA) based HIV vaccine is in developing stage involving innumerable complex and complicated steps. The MVA has not reached the stage of clinical trial Scientists from National AIDS Research Institute (NARI), Pune and National Institute of Cholera & Enteric Diseases (NICED), Kolkata are involved in this work.

An advisory group including people living with HIV/AIDS, NGOs and several experts, especially those working on gender has been constituted. The advisory group will advise Government in all aspects of vaccine development and access such as: ethics of clinical trials; gender and human rights issues; information dissemination; development of guidelines and protocols to address stigma and discrimination of HIV/AIDS infected persons.

Revision of list of medicines

2693. SHRI VIJAY SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that list of medicines for purchase is prepared by his Ministry after every five years or so;